Student Union Survey Sweden

Student survey

Respondents from 3 Swedish universities on digital study materials

Fall 2024

Understanding which aspects of a study resource students find most valuable is crucial for **improving their interaction and engagement with digital learning tools**.
We surveyed students from three universities in Sweden regarding their experiences:

- Stockholm University Social Science
- Stockholm University Business School
- Stockholm School of Economics

The main conclusions from the survey were:

Print/digital Materials Preference

**52%** of respondents (n/100) would rather use a **mixture of both print and digital materials** in their studies.

- Use printed materials
- Use digital materials with interactive features including audio
- Use a mixture of both print and digital materials

27%
21%
52%
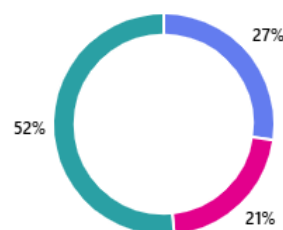
Owning study materials

56% of students said they would rather **rent or subscribe** to their study materials for a shorter period, rather than own the

- Own your materials (lifelong)
- Rent or subscribe to materials (i.e. be able to access it for a shorter period by month or semester)

44%
56%
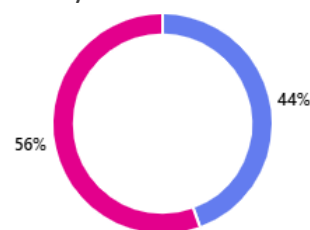
Value

56% of students ranked **cost** as the most important factor for chosing an e-textbook over a paper book. Other factors, like **search functionality, portability, and note-taking** capabilities were also important factors.

Please arrange the following features in order in which they would make it more valuable for you to study with an ebook versus a paper book. The top of the list is the most valuable.

1. **Cost:** Lower cost compared to paper books, including shorter lower cost rental options.
2. **Search Functionality:** Ability to quickly search for keywords or topics.
3. **Portability:** The convenience of carrying multiple books in one device.
4. **Highlighting and Note-Taking:** Digital highlighting and note-taking capabilities, including note export.
5. **Offline Access:** Ability to access the eBook without an internet connection.
6. **Highlighting and Note-Taking:** Digital highlighting and note-taking capabilities.
7. **Self Study Resources:** Quiz yourself tools, and learning checks. Including AI tutoring.
8. **Environmental Impact:** Reduced environmental footprint compared to printed books.
9. **Accessibility:** Audio availability with easy App access.
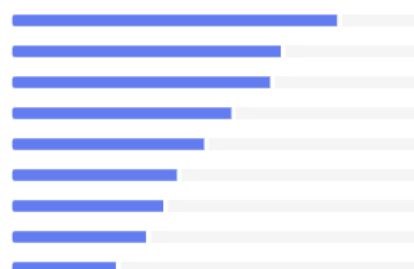
Value of Digital Practice

62% of students said that digital practice features, like **built-in coaching, tutoring, and immediate feedback**, supported their studies and progress in the subject. Overall, **98%** found it valuable to some extent.

How valuable do you find digital practice that includes built-in coaching, tutoring, and immediate feedback on right and wrong answers?

- Extremely valuable
- Very valuable
- Moderately valuable
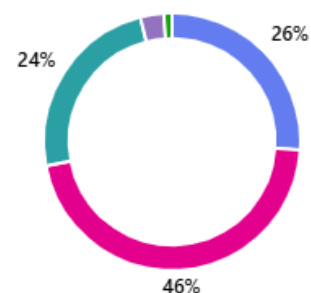- Slightly valuable
- Not at all valuable

6%
25%
24%
42%
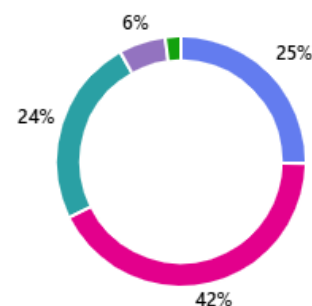
Regular Assignments

72% agreed that **regular assignments** highly contributed to their ability to keep up with the work required.

Do you feel that having regular assignments helps you stay up with the work required in the course and perform better?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
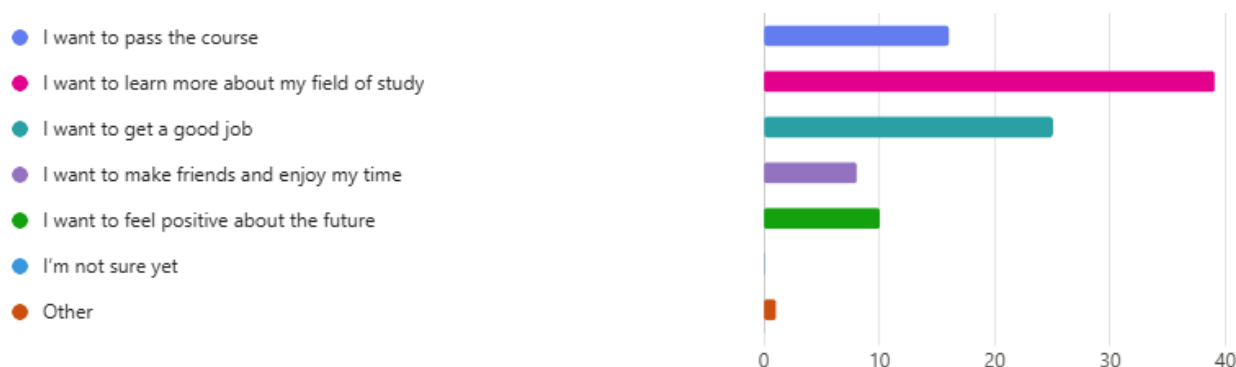- Strongly disagree

26%
24%
46%

Reasons to Study

It's not surprising that when it comes to the main reason for studying, many students focus on their **future careers (25%)** and **exams (16%)**. However, the majority (**39%**) of students are driven by the desire to **learn more in their field**.

Tells us what matters most to you about being a student at the moment.

- I want to pass the course
- I want to learn more about my field of study
- I want to get a good job
- I want to make friends and enjoy my time
- I want to feel positive about the future
- I'm not sure yet
- Other

Conclusions

Student Preferences: Key motivators for students include a mix of print and digital materials, renting study materials, and cost considerations.

Value of Digital Practice: Data on student perceptions of digital practice features and regular assignments show that 62% find digital practice features very useful, with 98% finding them valuable. 72% believe regular assignments help them stay on track, with 26% strongly agreeing.

Reasons for Studying: Main motivation for students is to learn more in their field (39%). Other reasons include passing the course (16%) and thinking about the future (25%).

Click to find out more about Pearson digital learning platforms.